

## What SEAP Provides...

The Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) provides an opportunity for members to improve educational services to children with disabilities.

In recent years, the Panel has commented on No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) school legislation, made suggestions to the Iowa Bureau of CFCS's School Improvement Plan, assisted with the Bureau of CFCS's application for a federal State Improvement Grant, and influenced personnel preparation and training opportunities.

For more information on the Special Education Advisory Panel, please contact the following:

Steve Maurer  
Iowa Dept. of Education  
Grimes State Office Bldg.  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
Phone: 515-281-3576  
Steve.Maurer@ed.state.ia.us

All Advisory Panel meetings are open to the public.

## Serving on the SEAP Panel...

If any person is interested in obtaining membership information or serving on the Panel, we welcome your interest. For more information, please contact:

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Des Moines, IA 50319  
Phone: 515-281-3576  
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## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL

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## Working to Improve Special Education Services for Iowa's Children

Iowa Department of Education  
Bureau of Children, Family and  
Community Services

Grimes State Office Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146

# What is the Special Education Advisory Panel?

The Special Education Advisory Panel is a requirement of the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*.

The Director of the Iowa Department of Education appoints the members, and nominations are solicited from across the state. Fifty-one percent of the Special Education Advisory Panel membership must be individuals with disabilities or the parents of children with disabilities.

## Other members include:

- Administrator(s) of programs for children with disabilities;
- Special Education and General Education Teachers;
- Special Education Director & Superintendent of Schools
- Charter School or Private School Representative;
- Representatives of Vocational, Community, or Business Organizations concerned with services to children with disabilities;
- Representatives of the Department of Adult and Juvenile Corrections;
- Representatives of Institutions of Higher Education;
- Representative of state agencies involved in financing or delivery of related services to children with disabilities.

# What is the Role of the Special Education Advisory Panel?

The main role of the Panel is to make recommendations to the Bureau of Children, Family and Community Services (CFCS) regarding the following:

- Unmet educational needs of children with disabilities;
- Improvement planning, and any proposed rule changes;
- Data collection systems;
- Legislation affecting children with disabilities;
- Collaboration among service providers; and
- Training needs within universities and school districts.



# What are the responsibilities of Panel Members

The Panel member's responsibilities include:

- Attending five to six meetings per year;
- Participating actively on standing and ad hoc committees;
- Advocating for the education of children with disabilities;
- Representing the viewpoints of the member's constituency or agency, and keeping them informed of Panel activities; and
- Sharing expertise with other Panel members.